# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5524
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2002
POLICE EXCESSES IN MEDIA PERSONS
C. KUPPUSAMI

**Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints from press/media people against police excesses or high handedness during coverage of various incidents in Tamil Nadu during 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the matter was referred to Press Council for enquiry;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have given compensation/relief to the affected Press/Media people under the various welfare funds; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) to (d): Press Council of India has informed that they had initiated suo-motu inquiry into the attacks on media persons of Tamil Nadu by the Tamil Nadu police while the journalists were covering the arrests of Shri M. Karunanidhi, ex-Chief Minister, Tamil Nadu and Union Ministers Shri T.R. Balu and Shri Murasoli Maran and that the Council had also received complaints from Sun TV and the Photographers` Association. The Press Council set up a fact-finding Committee to inquire into the alleged police attacks on the journalists. The said Committee submitted its report and the same was forwarded to the State Government of Tamil Nadu in December 2001 for appropriate action.

(e) No Sir.

(f) Does not arise.